

Sean Patrick Maloney Member of Congress New York's 18th District



James Skoufis Member of Assembly 99th District

February 12, 2018

Audrey Lewin, Administrator Sapphire Nursing and Rehab 46 Harriman Drive Goshen, NY 10924

Mrs. Lewin,

We write today to ask for clarification on a number of concerns regarding your facility in Goshen. Family members of those receiving services at the facility, your own employees, and the Times Herald-Record newspaper have all raised important questions regarding staffing and proper nutrition at the facility. Those questions have thus far gone unanswered.

With regard to staffing, we have received information from the previously named sources that Sapphire has cut the number of nurses at the facility by 54%, including layoffs of 12 registered nurses (RNs). Reducing staff capacity by half obviously impacts your organization's ability to provide necessary services to your residents. With regard to nutrition, we've received complaints that some of the folks at your facility have gone without necessary nutrition. As you know, this is a serious concern as many seniors have specific dietary needs.

On behalf of our constituents, we request answers on both of these pressing issues. We are well aware that the New York State Department of Health is conducting a comprehensive investigation, but in the meantime, the families of folks at your facilities should not have to wait and worry about the level of care being provided to their loved ones. The public has a right to know whether or not some of the most vulnerable members of our community are receiving the health care services and nutrition they deserve.

Sincerely,

James Skoufis

Member of Assembly

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